

FOREWORD

Transcript Warning:

All written transcripts are imperfect abstracts of spoken conversation. Variations in sound quality and in the aural acuity of listeners can and do produce wide variations in what is heard. Even though transcripts may be prepared at great effort and with great care, many points of ambiguity are inevitable, and erroneous interpretations from transcripts are always possible. Therefore, to ensure full confidence in any and all quotations from the presidential recordings, users are strongly urged to check all transcript renditions against the actual tape recordings before publication.

Copyright:

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Punctuation:

The following conventions are used throughout the transcripts:

- * * * To indicate a pause in the recording while the speaker listens to the person speaking at the other end of the telephone. Used when only one side of a telephone conversation is recorded.
- [?] When the transcriber is not certain of what is said on the recording.
- To indicate a sentence which the speaker trails off without completing it.
- . . . When a speaker is interrupted before a sentence is completed.
- _____ To indicate the speaker's emphasis.
- [/] Used to enclose editorial comments of the transcriber such as /Meeting appears to be breaking up/ or /Several speakers speak at once and none of the words are intelligible./

Names:

The first time a name is mentioned, the full name is provided whenever it is known. "JFK" and "RFK" are used for President Kennedy and Robert Kennedy, respectively. When the identity of a speaker is unknown, "Speaker?" is used; when the identification of a speaker is uncertain, a question mark follows the name. The heading of each transcript gives the names of all participants listed in the President's Appointment Books as scheduled to attend the meeting.

Preparation:

These electronic documents were created from transcripts available in the audiovisual research room in the John F. Kennedy Library. The transcripts were scanned using optical character recognition and the resulting text files were proofread against the original transcripts. Some formatting changes were made.

Dictabelt 3A, Item 3A2

Voice 1: Waiting. Waiting. [Very long delay.]

Lincoln¹: Hello.

Voice 2: Mr. Troutman calling you.

Lincoln: Okay.

Voice 2: Thank you. Here you are.

Troutman²: Evelyn?

Lincoln: Yes, Bob.

Troutman: We got another question here. They ask when did we first learn of this? The [point?] accident. The accident took place the day before the voting, July 12th. The president was evidently served with a suit about November 1st, when he was in California. He was not given the paper. Pierre received it for him.

Lincoln: Uh-huh.

Troutman: What we're trying to do is, uh, I don't know whether they are driving at the idea they told us they were in a big wreck and we just said, Let them lie on the street and die, or something. See, there is no big problem of any of this, but . . .

Lincoln: Uh-huh.

Troutman: . . . we are trying to ascertain if this was brought, to your knowledge, to the candidate's attention that there had been a big wreck your people were in prior to that suit. I doubt if it was.

Lincoln: No.

Troutman: I didn't even hear of it.

¹ Evelyn Lincoln

² Robert Troutman

Lincoln: I didn't either.

Troutman: And he would have heard if it was a big to-do. You understand?

Lincoln: He surely would have.

Troutman: So then, maybe Leo Racine or somebody was told about it, but nobody worried about it because we didn't, weren't told that anybody was hurt much.

Lincoln: That's right.

Troutman: So do you . . .

Lincoln: No, I don't remember anything.

Troutman: You don't.

Lincoln: Uh-uh.

Troutman: Well, if it becomes important we can ask him later.

Lincoln: Yeah.

Troutman: Okay.

Lincoln: All right.

Troutman: Thank you, ma'am.